

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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EXDIS

EYES ONLY ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN FROM AMBASSADOR HINTON

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EC, TECH, IAEA, MNUC
SUBJECT: EURATOM-IAEA SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 310525

1. REFTEL IS NOT EXACTLY AN IDEAL INSTRUCTION FROM MY POINT OF VIEW AND IS CERTAINLY NOT THE REPLY THAT COMMISSIONER BRUNNER WAS HOPING FOR WHEN HE MADE THE TWO REQUESTS TO ME REPORTED IN EC BRUSSELS 12423 AND GAVE ME PAPER REPORTED IN EC BRUSSELS 12427. BE THAT AS IT MAY, GIVEN REVEALING FYI PARAGRAPH CONCERNING JAPAN, I PLAN CARRY OUT INSTRUCTIONS WITH ONLY MINOR CHANGES OUTLINED SEPTEL. I WANT YOU TO KNOW, HOWEVER, THAT I THINK WE ARE COMING DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO OVER-STEPPING THE POLITICAL TOLERANCES IN SUPPORTING THE IAEA POINT OF VIEW. GIVEN THE BUREAUCRATIC TENSIONS BETWEEN EURATOM AND IAEA AND THE WELL KNOWN POLITICAL PROBLEMS IN BRINGING THE MEMBER STATES OF THE COMMUNITY AS FAR AS THEY HAVE BEEN BROUGHT, WE SHOULD, I BELIEVE, EXERCISE PARTICULAR CARE TO AVOID HAVING THE US POSITION HOSTAGE REPEAT HOSTAGE TO WHAT THE IAEA STAFF WANTS INCLUDED IN DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS "TO EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENT PRINCIPLE THAT IAEA HAS RIGHTS OF INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION INCLUDING INSPECTION AND

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MEASUREMENT."

2. WE HAVE POWERFUL LEVERAGE IN REGULATORY CONTROL OF NUCLEAR EXPORTS TO EURATOM. BUT POLITICAL SENSITIVITY IN EXERCISING THAT LEVERAGE IN MY VIEW IS ESSENTIAL. CLEARLY WERE WE TO CUT OFF SUPPLIES, LONG RUN EFFECT WOULD BE TO

SPUR ALREADY WELL ADVANCED INDEPENDENT EUROPEAN CAPABILITIES AND TO COMPROMISE POLITICAL EFFORTS UNDER WAY SEPARATELY TO CONTROL EXPORT OF REPROCESSING FACILITIES FROM FRANCE AND GERMANY. AS IMPORTANT AS IAEA SAFEGUARDS ARE AND AS CRUCIAL AS PRECEDENT ARGUMENT MAY BE, WERE WE TO PUSH EUROPEANS TOO FAR DANGERS OF NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION WOULD INCREASE NOT DECREASE.

3. WHAT I AM TRYING TO SAY IS THAT US GOVERNMENT SHOULD EXERCISE GREAT CARE NOT TO BE DRAWN INTO ARGUMENTS BETWEEN EURATOM AND IAEA EXPERTS OVER DETAILS OF INTERPRETATION OF IAEA/EURATOM AGREEMENT. IAEA INTERPRETATION OF THAT AGREEMENT DIFFERS FROM WHAT WAS INTENDED BY BOTH PARTIES IN 1973. WHILE EUROPEANS WILL AGREE TO MORE NOW, INrecognition of changed circumstances, there is nevertheless a limit somewhere on what they will accept.

4. IF YOU AGREE, I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR DISCUSSING MATTER INFORMALLY WITH KRATZER AND OTHERS INVOLVED TO END THAT HAVING MADE OUR VIEWS KNOWN ON PRINCIPLES, WE LEAVE IT TO PARTIES TO WORK THINGS OUT IN PRACTICE. HINTON

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